

HOW TO JOIN THE PARENTS' UNION SCHOOL SCOUTS.

A. For those who are going to be Scout Captains, with a patrol under them.

i. Call a meeting of those with whom you intend to form a patrol.

ii. Choose a name—that of some bird or animal typical of the district in which you live.

iii. Read over the entrance tests :—

(a) Know the Scout Law, and obey it.

(b) Know the composition of the Union Jack, and how to fly it.

(c) Know about the animal of your badge.

(d) Embroider, or (for little children) paint, a badge.

iv. When the intending members of the patrol have passed their tests, send in a list of their names, and a painted copy of the badge.

v. You will then receive a certificate of enrolment, containing the regulations of P.U.S. Scouts. These are :—

1. That any student of the House of Education may form a patrol, or, if more than one patrol, a troop.

2. That each member of a patrol, having passed the entrance tests, be enrolled as a Parents' Union School Scout.

3. That the patrol must be formed for children belonging to the P.U.S. only.

4. That each patrol send in a report of its work during the year.

B. For those who are working with one child, and intend to do scouting with him or her, on an equal footing.

i. Agree upon some name.

ii. Work for the entrance tests, and either ask someone to test you, or test each other.

iv. Send in your names for enrolment, as independent Scouts. (In the tests for Tassel Honours, someone competent must be found to judge.)

(The report should be sent between October 1st and December 1st, and should include the names of new members, tassel honours that have been gained, etc.)

Headquarters :—Scale How, Ambleside.

Further particulars and information will appear in a later number of the PLANT. Scouting Tests, etc., to be found in the September and October (1910) number of the *Parents' Review*.

JUNIOR PLAY.

On Tuesday afternoon, April 25th, an excellent play, "The Foresters," was acted by the Juniors, which was much enjoyed by all present. The following is a copy of the programme :—

Robin Hood	Miss Maud
King Richard	Miss Edmonds
Prince John	Miss Couchman
Little John	Miss Curry
Will Scarlet	Miss Feiling
Friar Tuck	Miss Rhode
A Justiciary	Miss Malden
Sheriff of Nottingham	Miss Bell
Abbot of St. Mary's	Miss Other
Sailor	Miss King
Mercenary	Miss Alderidge
Sir Richard Lea	Miss Henderson
Walter Lea	Miss Davidson
Maid Marion	Miss Moffat
Kate	Miss Beck
An Old Woman	Miss King

IMPRESSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE.

BY E. A. SMITH.

We tumbled sleepily out of the Euston train, which, having left London at midnight, landed us on the Windermere platform at the uncomfortable hour of eight in the morning. The rain dripped steadily round us, the country was wrapped in mist, and a chilly atmosphere which had a curiously quenching effect on the soul surrounded and depressed us, while we packed ourselves wearily and mechanically into the stuffy motor bus. Whisper it not in Gath, but did we almost wish in our heart of hearts that we had not made such efforts to come to the Conference? After all, was it going to be worth it? We dismissed these base questions from our minds before they had even consciously formed themselves, and they were wholly and for ever dispersed by the warm welcome of students already at Ambleside who had *not* had a night journey, and—a large and hearty breakfast. Then life again assumed its normal aspect, an aspect which with every hour of that week-end Conference grew more full of delight.

That first impression of dulness is hard to recall now, so much more intense are the memories and the events that followed. My mind retains one distinct impression of exhilaration and strenuousness. The conditions for mental activity were perfect. Many minds alert and eager were concentrated on the same subjects. Common background of college life, common aims in each individual life work, and common ideals bound us to each other in a way in which no other relationship could.

In the mornings we worked hard. Papers were read and discussed: what was of any value was instantly and warmly appreciated, while points of disagreement were frankly discussed. Original souls such as Miss Allen and Mrs. Esslemont sent us constantly into bursts of laughter, while the great power and earnestness of Miss Parish's address

inspired all who heard it with fresh enthusiasm and courage as nothing else could have done.

The afternoons were delightful. Then, we took in rather than gave out. Mrs. Earle's talk on G. F. Watts will be remembered by all who were privileged to hear it as something very special—something that will live always—a milestone on life's roadway. A Scouting Demonstration, unfortunately much handicapped by weather, and the Juniors' play, filled the other afternoons, and each was delightful in its own peculiar way, and much enjoyed by us all.

The evenings were spent in pure frivolity; and what fun we had! We talked till the noise was deafening, and then we screamed! There was so much to say, so much to listen to; old knots were tightened in the rope of friendship, and new knots made. After all, the delight of a Conference is the unparalleled opportunity it gives for keeping old friends and making new ones. The difficulty was that one had not time to make all the new friends one wanted! The dance was a glorious success. The fancy dresses, as always at Scale How, were really original, nor did we lack in gentlemen, Shackleton and two of his expedition friends having made a special journey from the South Pole to be our partners! Of course we finished up with Sir Roger de Coverley and Auld Lang Syne in the approved Scale Hovian style; and then, turning up our skirts and putting on our overcoats we paddled home in the relentless rain, which, however hard it tried, found it impossible to quench our spirits.

All thanks to Miss Cruse, whose genius in household arrangements overcame every difficulty; and, indeed, thanks to all at the College for their labour for us—staff, students, and maids: everyone thoroughly spoiled us!

Sunday, of course, I have kept to the last, it being perhaps, of all good things, the best. Mr. Hawsworth adapted his sermon specially for us, which was very delightful, apart from the joy of going again in such numbers to

worship in the church which has meant so much to most of us.

Then we went by Miss Mason's generous invitation to lunch at Scale How, whose elastic walls contained 100 of us seated for that meal. On Sunday, too, the weather cleared, and we could stroll along the Terrace in the old delightful way. College teas were in full swing at 3.30, and every bedroom was filled to overflowing, every bed holding, if not stacks of students, then stacks of students' Sunday hats! At 9.15 we went in to "Meds," and to some of us at least this was the crowning point of the whole week-end. To sit once more at the feet of her whose teaching has been the inspiration of our lives, to listen once more to the deep truths she had to impart to us, to be privileged once more to learn of her the things of the spirit: this was indeed a joy, and that quiet hour will, I think, be remembered long by us all as one very special part of the Conference.

What more can I say? In writing this I have again lived over that week-end of delight. So much did we learn as Pilgrims on the way, so many truths were imprinted on our hearts, I think the House of Education might truly be called the House Beautiful, and she who guides and inspires the Pilgrims, the Interpreter. Certainly we who were there felt like Christian, who, after much refreshment of soul, once again set out on his way rejoicing.

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